FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 OCTOBER 1980

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Both Iraq and Iran have claimed successes in the fight for Abadan and Khorramshahr. According to INA, Iraqi forces have gained "complete control" of the road junctions linking Abadan with Ahvaz, Bandar Shahpur and Tehran and have destroyed the six oil pipelines leading from Abadan to Tehran. The agency also reported that Iraqi forces seized Abadan's radio transmitters on 15 October, but Abadan radio was monitored on the evening of 15 October carrying normal wartime programming and on the morning of 16 October relaying Tehran radio. INA also said Iraqi troops continue to "mop up" Iranian "pockets" of resistance in Khorramshahr and have "tightened" control over many areas of the city, including the railway station. It further reported that "fierce battles" took place at the "approaches" to Dezful, noting that Iraqi troops destroyed Soviet T-62 tanks in these engagements and speculating that they may have been supplied to Iran by Syria and Libya.

Tehran radio, however, reported that Iraqi troops were forced to retreat from the Abadan front after an unsuccessful night attack and that the city is being turned into an "armed stronghold" in preparation for possible street fighting. The radio also reported fighting along the roads leading from Abadan to Ahvaz and Mahshahr, but it made no mention of whether these and other arteries have been cut off as the Iraqis claim. Tehran radio has continued to claim that Iraqi troops have been unable to enter Khorramshahr, saying that the fighting there is taking place on the "outskirts" of the city but admitting that the Iraqis are probing toward the city center in an attempt to occupy "sensitive positions."

Communiques issued by the Iranian Joint Staff, carried by Tehran radio, reported that Iranian airborne forces crossed the Iraqi border and destroyed two border posts and an army column, and they claimed that 1,000 Iraqis were killed by these forces in operations in the Ilam region.

The Iraqi General Command communiques, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, report enemy air attacks on civilian targets in Irbil, Baghdad, Al-Fallujah, Choman, Raniyah, Wasit, Haj 'Umran and Al-Musharrah. Tehran radio reported that Iranian planes also bombed the port of Umm Qasr, destroying one missile boat and damaging another. The Iraqi communiques claimed the sinking of two Iranian ships in a naval battle in the Persian Gulf and said that Iraqi airstrikes left the Tabriz oil refinery in flames.

Jerusalem radio has reaffirmed earlier reports that Iraq is receiving military equipment through the Jordanian port of Al-'Aqabah. Citing Israeli sources, it said that war materiel, including tank transporters and ammunition, is continuing to be offloaded at Al-'Aqabah and that the first shipload of equipment left the port for Iraq in trucks a week ago.

INA, citing the magazine AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI, reported that Iranian fighter planes are using Syrian airbases and that an air raid on Mosul was carried out from one of these bases. The magazine also said spare parts for Iranian fighters are arriving in Syria where they are being transferred to Iranian planes.

In an interview with the Paris Arabic-language paper AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said there is "absolutely no Kurdish insurgency movement" in northern Iraq taking advantage of the war. He admitted only that a few Kurds armed by the Barzani group in Iran cross into Iraq to take "individual action," but he said the border guards kill some and chase the rest away.

Hammadi also denied that former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar had been in Iraq just prior to the invasion of Iran, saying that reports to this effect showed a "vivid imagination." He did say, however, that Iraq has "amicable relations" with and supports the Iranian opposition, including Bakhtiar, and that he hopes it gets stronger both inside and outside Iran. Nevertheless, he said that Iraq is not "cooperating" with the opposition inside Iran, for that would constitute "interference" in the internal affairs of another state. Hammadi explained that Iraq supports the Iranian opposition in the same way it backs the "world liberation movement."

According to Tehran radio, the Iranian representative at the UN Security Council session on the conflict advised the council that "the head of my government has decided personally to present Iran's positions." He then asked the council to hold a separate session to hear Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's remarks. The council agreed to hear Raja'i on 17 October. In his 11 October press conference, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said he had too many important matters at home to take time personally to attend the UN session.

PLO

In a speech at a military graduation ceremony, reported by Voice of Palestine radio, PLO leader Salah Khalaf affirmed that the Palestinians oppose the Gulf war "because we are with" both Iraq and Iran. He went on to explain the Palestinians' even-handed policy, expressing concern for the welfare of both states and peoples, and he called the conflict a "purely American war" that benefits no one but the United States and Israel. He said Palestinians are not like other Arabs who "look on, gloat over the mishap, or incite." They want an end to the war, a cease-fire and negotiations, he added. However, he did not mention any proposals the PLO may have to end the conflict. Nor did he comment on reports that the USSR has asked the PLO to mediate the dispute, but he implicitly ruled out such a role, saying that the Palestinians could not be "mediators"--as true mediation is carried out by those not "involved"--because they are "partners in fate" with the disputants.

Syria

Amman radio reported that Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas returned to Damascus from Moscow where he had been holding talks with Soviet leaders on Soviet aid to "further Syria's defensive capability." Monitored Syrian media have yet to report on Talas' activities in Moscow in the aftermath of the signing of the Syria-USSR treaty of friendship and cooperation.

YAR

In decrees issued on 15 October, carried by San'a' radio, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih announced the formation of a new government. In one decree he established a dual vice presidency, appointing 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi and 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani to the posts. The former held the vice presidency when it was a singular office and the latter gave up the prime minister's post for the new position. In another decree President Salih appointed 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali al-'Iryani prime minister and charged him with forming a new government. Still another decree listed the 25 ministers of the new government.

Afghanistan

Kabul radio reported that President Babrak Karmal left Kabul for Moscow via Tashkent on 15 October. Included in the president's delegation are Deputy Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost, Defense Minister Mohammad Rafi' and party Politburo member Saleh Mohammad Ziray.

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KARMAL DEPARTS FOR USSR ACCOMPANIED BY TOP OFFICIALS

LD151658 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpts] At the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government, Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee, chairman of the Revolution Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] arrived at 1700 in Tasnkent, capital of Uzbekistan, on his way to a friendly visit to Moscow. At 1500 Babrak Karmal's car, with motorcycle escort, left Revolution Council headquarters for Kabul International Airport.

The following are members of Babrak Karmal's entourage: member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, secretary, and member of the DRA Revolution Council Presidium, Dr Saleh Mohammad Ziray; member of the party Central Committee Politburo, deputy to the Revolution Council and deputy prime minister, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand; member of the party Central Committee, member of the Revolution Council and foreign minister, Shah Mohammad Dost; member of the party Central Committee and of the Revolution Council and minister of defense, Lt Gen Mohammad Rafi'; and member of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Central Committee's international relations committee and the editor of HAQIQATE ENGLABE SAWR, Mahmud Barialay. In addition, the private secretary to the president of the Revolution Council (Mohammad Anwar); the deputy minister of publications at the Ministry of Information and Culture, Dr Haider Mas'ud; the chairman of the Central Force [as heard], Lt Col (Nurrol Haq); the commander of the National Guard, Maj 'Aziz Hadad; the advisor to the Defense Ministry, Lt Col (Hashim); and the chief or protocol at the Foreign Ministry, 'Abdorrazeq 'Abedi, are accompanying Babrak Karmal on this visit to the USSR. [Kabul in Urdu to South Asia at 1330 GMT on 15 October in a similar report adds the following at this point: Also accompanying Babrak Karmal are representatives of the daily newspaper (HAQIQAT) and BAKHTAR, correspondents and cameramen of radio and television of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and a unit of Afghan Films.]

Arrival in USSR

For Soviet media coverage of the visit to the USSR of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolution Council and Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, see the South Asia section of the 16 October Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

INDUSTRY MINISTER RETURNS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

GF151715 Kabul in English to South Asia 1530 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Engineer Mohammad Esma'il Danesh, minister of mines and industry, who had gone at the head of a delegation to the CSSR at the invitation of the minister of energy and fuel of that country returned to Kabul today.

JOINT POLITBURO, PRESIDIUM SESSION SETS UP AWARDS COMMISSION

LD111901 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Oct 80

[Text] A joint session of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA] Central Committee Politburo and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Presidium, was held on 11 October.

In accordance with the DRA Basic Principles the guidance of the Third PDPA Central Committee Plenum and the DRA Revolution Council, the Joint Session of the PDPA Central Committee and the Presidium of the DRA Revolution Council has ratified the following:

For the purpose of an improvement in the living conditions of workers, wage-earners, and government and (?party) officials, a commission has been set up to prepare (?appropriate) proposals and (?submit them) to the PDPA Central Committee and Presidium of the Revolution Council. (?Concerning) the increase in the salaries of government officials [words indistinct] studies have been carried out and necessary measures were taken.

(?It was decided) to award DRA medals and emblems for the purpose of (?appreciation) of those commanders, (?officers), NCO's and soldiers of the DRA Armed Forces; the commanders and personnel of police and the personnel of (?Public) Information Service, [word indistinct] and other patriots who have truly served toward the (?success) of the Sawr Revolution, toward the defense of the revolution and the gains of the revolution of the people of Afghanistan, have sincerely participated (?in the struggle for) the independence, freedom and territorial integrity of the homeland, and have shown courage and [word indistinct] and also to the martyrs of the path of revolution.

For the nomination and (?distinction) of those persons who will be considered entitled to receive these medals and emblems, a commission will be set up which will make an appropriate study in this case and submit a proposal to the PDPA Central Committee and Presidium of DRA Revolution Council.

GENERAL QADER ADDRESSES CENTRAL FORCES SEMINAR

LD152012 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] A seminar of propagandists and political group leaders of independent units and companies of the Central Forces ended in a ceremony today. Maj Gen 'Abdol Qader, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [?DPA] Central Committee, member of the Presidium of the Revolution Council and chairman of the PDPA Central Committee Justice and Defense Department, referred in a rapturous revolutionary speech to the importance of the seminar's decision and drew attention to the propagandists and political group leaders and to their duties in the country's present conditions. Colonel Khalil, commander of the Central Forces, later made a speech on the topic. The seminar was inaugurated 4 days ago in the Central Forces Command.

AFP: USSR SENDING MORE TROOPS TO FIGHT REBELLION

NC151254 Paris AFP in English 1245 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Paris, 15 Oct (AFP)--The Soviet Union has sent more troops into Afghanistan over the past few months and the occupation force is back up to levels prior to a much publicized partial withdrawal this summer, a source said here today. The source said there were currently 85,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan attempting to crush the Afghan resistance.

FRENCH NEWSMEN REPORTEDLY HELD IN KABUL PRISON

LD091139 Paris FRANCE-SOIR in French 9 Oct 80 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Two French Journalists Detained in Afghanistan"]

[Text] Islamabad--The two French journalists who disappeared in the Qandahar region in southern Afghanistan at the end of August are in a Kabul prison. This has been announced by the French Embassy in the Afghan capital. The Afghan Government has stated that Francois Missen, 46, and Antoine Darnaud, 23, are "in excellent health," but has not allowed any French diplomat to visit them.

ZIAUR RAHMAN RECEIVES PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM SADDAM HUSAYN

BK101633 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Oct 80

[Text] The special envoy of the Iraqi president handed over a personal message of President Saddam Husayn to President Zia in Dacca today.

Special Envoy Jasim Muhammad al-Khalaf, an Iraqi minister, arrived in Dacca today carrying the message. His mission is part of an Iraqi plan to send envoys to various countries in the current conflict with Iran. As already reported, Iraq has also sent three emissaries to Turkey, India, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Greece with special messages from the Iraqi president. Meanwhile, Iran says it is sending delegations to the various Muslim countries to explain its position over the conflict. Iran also plans to take its case to the UN Security Council.

ZIAUR RAHMAN URGES SAFETY OF SHIPS IN SHATT AL-'ARAB

BK111536 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 11 Oct 80

[Text] President Ziaur Rahman has appealed to both Iran and Iraq to ensure the safe return of third country ships stranded in the Shatt al-'Arab to their own countries. In two separate messages to Iranian President Bani-Sadr and Iraqi Premier Saddam Husayn, President Zia has expressed deep concern and regret over the continued armed conflict between the two brotherly Islamic countries. The president said in his message that it has come to our attention that a number of various third country ships have been stranded in the Shatt al-'Arab as a result of the conflict and that ensuring the safe movement of these ships will be consistent with Islamic ideals. This will also reflect a great humanitarian attitude, he added.

PRESIDENT OF GUINEA ARRIVES FOR STATE VISIT

Arrival in Dacca

BK120927 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Excerpts] President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea was given a tumultuous welcome when he arrived in Dacca at about noon today on a 2-day state visit to Bangladesh. As soon as he disembarked from his special aircraft a 21-gun salute was fired to herald the arrival of the distinguished guests. President Ziaur Rahman received him at the airport. The two leaders warmly shook hands. Vice President Sattar and Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman were also present.

The Guinean head of state is being accompanied by a 22-member entourage including six ministers. The ministers are: Minister of Housing and Urbanization El Hadj Moussa Diakite; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Cooperation El Hadj Abdoulaye Toure; Defense Minister [title as received] Lansane Diane; Minister for Fisheries and Livestock Fily Cissoko; Labor Minister Mamoudou Sy; and Minister for Banks and Insurance Saikou Barry.

Banquet With Ziaur Rahman

BK121612 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] President Ziaur Rahman has reiterated his government's unequivocal support to the struggle for freedom and human rights in Africa and all over the world. He was speaking at a banquet given by him in honor of President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea at Banga Bhavan tonight. The president said many nations of the world are still threatened with political and economic subjugation. Bangladesh is opposed to imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, domination or hegemonism in any form or manifestation and will continue its support to the struggle for political and economic emancipation.

The president said the emergence of an independent sovereign Zimbabwe is a matter of great satisfaction to the people of Bangladesh. He expressed the hope that the heroic people in South Africa and Namibia will also achieve success in their just struggle for freedom and justice. Referring to the relations between Guinea and Bangladesh, President Zia said that the two countries are bound by their peoples' common aspirations for economic welfare and social development. As developing nations, the two countries have a common experience, outlook and aspirations. Bangladesh, like Guinea, is dedicated to peace, stability and progress. They will continue their endeavor to strengthen their relations and extend the areas of cooperation, he added.

President Zia said nonalignment is the cornerstone of the foreign policies of both Guinea and Bangladesh. They are committed to work for further strengthening and preserving the basic principles of the nonaligned movement. The president said as members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, Guinea and Bangladesh have been coordinating their efforts to uphold the cause of the Muslim world. He expressed deep concern over the escalation of tension in the Middle East and continued occupation of the Arab land and the annexation of Jerusalem by Israel. The threat to Al-Quds and Ash-Sharif is a threat to the entire Islamic world. The liberation of Jerusalem and its restoration to Arab historic sovereignty is our sacred and bound duty, he added.

Referring to the widening disparity between the rich and the poor nations, President Zia said these have assumed such an alarming magnitude that it poses a serious threat to peace and stability in the present day world. He called for restructuring the existing economic systems as an imperative necessity in the interest of global peace. The new international economic order based on equity and justice must be established without any further delay. The president stressed the need for economic development in both Guinea and Bangladesh. He spoke highly of the great development efforts being made in Guinea under the wise leadership of President Sekou Toure. In Bangladesh, he said the government and the people are working very hard to eliminate poverty, hunger, malnutrition and illiteracy. Though the task is formidable the people are determined to accelerate the pace of progress through self-reliance and cooperation from friendly nations. President Zia expressed the hope that President Sekou Toure's visit will further widen and deepen the existing ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Toure Banquet Speech

BK131324 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Excerpt] President Sekou Toure has called for greater unity among the Muslim countries for rescuing Jerusalem to Islamic and Arab sovereignty. [sentence as heard] Speaking at a banquet last night hosted in his honor by President Ziaur Rahman, he said the Muslim world should work for great cooperation for global peace.

President Sekou Toure stressed the need for strengthening the Islamic Conference and the nonaligned movement for safeguarding and consolidating the common interests of the member states. The Guinean president appreciated the contributions being made by Bangladesh in this regard. He emphasized the need for establishment of justice, fair play and equality in dealing with international affairs and removal of discrimination in all forms.

Referring to his present visit to Bangladesh, he expressed his country's determination to establish and develop bilateral cooperation with the fraternal people of Bangladesh on a solid foundation. Pointing out the many similarities between Bangladesh and Guinea, he said they have a shared history and experience in colonial domination and regaining national sovereignty through a long struggle. Both countries are now engaged in consolidating their hard-earned independence and building their economy to insure a better life for the people, he added.

Presidential Meeting

BK131304 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1205 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Text] Visiting Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure has had talks with Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman during a river cruise lasting more than 6 hours. The two leaders reviewed the international situation with particular reference to the Middle East problem. They also dealt with problems faced by the developing nations in the context of the ongoing north-south dialog.

A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen at Banga Bhavan this afternoon that the two heads of state, who are members of the three-membered Jerusalem committee, had a wide ranging discussion on international issues including the situation in the Middle East. The situation in Jerusalem, however, figured prominently in the talks.

The spokesman added that the two leaders also considered measures for improving bilateral relations between the two countries. Some of the measures, he said, will be reflected in the communique to be issued tomorrow after the departure of the Guinean president. The spokesman added that during the course of the discussion on Jerusalem, the two presidents had in mind the Islamic summit which is to take place in Mecca in December next and (?emphasized coordinating programs) with a view to achieving (?positive) results of the Islamic summit. In the talks, President Zia was assisted by Finance Minister Saifur Rahman and Home Minister Mustafizur Rahman. The Guinean president was assisted by Minister for Foreign Cooperation Abdoulaye Toure.

Joint Communique

BK141516 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] Bangladesh and Guinea have called for [word indistinct] and close cooperation to realize the objectives of the Islamic conference including the liberation of Jerusalem. This was stated in a joint communique issued at the end of the 2-day state visit to Dacca of the Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure.

The communique says the two heads of state reiterated [words indistinct] just and permanent solution of the Middle East problem [words indistinct] of the occupation forces from all occupied Arab territories and return of the Holy City [words indistinct]. They have strongly condemned the Zionist attempt to annex the Holy City defying world opinion and violating the decision of the United Nations.

The two leaders expressed their deep concern and anxiety over the deteriorating relations between Iraq and Iran and urged the two fraternal countries to cease hostilities immediately and work for an amicable solution of the dispute. They also expressed grave concern over the worsening situation in Afghanistan and called for the complete withdrawal of foreign troops from that country.

The two leaders reviewed the global political and economic situation and stressed the need to uphold the principles and objectives of the UN Charter, nonaligned movement and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to promote and strengthen international peace and security. On the global economic situation the two leaders pledged to continue working together and to fight for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equity and justice. They reaffirmed the need for continuous north-south dialog for concrete measures to remove the problems of the (?south).

The communique says the two presidents had an identity of views on issues of concern of their two countries and decided to further expand the fraternal relations in [word indistinct] mutual cooperation in all (?spheres). In this context they explored the possibility of increasing the volume of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. A ministerial-level joint committee is to be established to identify mutually beneficial fields of cooperation. It was agreed to exchange ambassadors between the two countries as soon as possible.

The communique says the talks between the two presidents were held in a very friendly and cordial atmosphere and marked by (?greater) understanding, mutual trust and respect. The visit of Preside Sekou Toure to Bangladesh has helped further consolidate and deepen the traditional bonds of friendship and understanding between the two brotherly countries.

The president and his ministers were given a hearty send-off at Dacca International Airport this morning. President Ziaur Rahman, the vice president, the prime minister and other members of the Cabinet, diplomats and high civil and military officers were at the airport to see off the distinguished visitor. [Words indistinct] gun-salute, a ceremonial guard of honor and colorfully-attired school children [words indistinct]. Two jet fighters of the Bangladesh Air Force escorted the special Boeing [words indistinct] Bangladesh border (?post).

AFP: GOVERNMENT QUESTIONS REAPPEARANCE OF PRC BORDER PATROLS

BK101604 Hong Kong AFP in English 1531 GMT 10 Oct 80

[Text] New Delhi, 10 Oct (AFP)--The Indian Government has taken up with the Chinese Embassy here the reported reappearnce of Chinese military patrols in certain areas along the border, it was reported today. The areas involved were Bara Hoti, in the central sector of the disputed border, along the Indian Uttar Pradesh State and the Thagla Ridge at the tri-junction between India, Tibet and Bhutan.

The Madras-based Hindu newspaper in a dispatch from its New Delhi correspondent said, without quoting sources, that the Indian Government had, however, only drawn the embassy's attention to the development and made no formal protest against it. The report said the embassy had promised to ascertain from Beijing what exactly happened and inform the Indian Foreign Office accordingly soon.

After the 1962 Sino-Indian border war, both sides had pulled their forces back to a distance of 20 km on either side of the "actual line of control" unilaterally set up by China through military action. Since then no troops were being deployed by either side in the disputed sectors of the border to in order to avoid incidents.

IRAN-IRAQ WAR AFFECTS ENERGY SUPPLIES, INDIAN NATIONALS

Peace Initiative

BK131605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Text] India is consulting various countries to find out the possibility for an initiative to end the 3-week-long conflict between Iraq and Iran. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that special envoys from Iraq and Iran have already visited India in this connection.

The spokesman further said that Indian missions in Iran and Iraq are in constant touch with the Indian nationals there. They are making arrangements for their security, welfare and repatriation wherever needed. The consulate in Basra has been strengthened and special officers have been posted on the Iraq-Kuwait border to assist in repatriating Indians.

Indian Boats Damaged

BK151558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Three Indian mechanized boats sustained direct hits near Basra in the Iraq-Iran conflict and were badly damaged. According to information received in New Delhi, all the crew members are safe.

War Affects Oil Supplies

BK151303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Minister for petroleum, chemicals and fertilizers Virendra Patil has denied that the West Asia conflict has resulted in the disruption of oil supplies.

In a statement in New Delhi today, he said although the conflict has affected supplies to some extent, the country has been able to get crude supplies from other sources and has also gone in for spot purchases. Patil expressed the hope that despite the difficult situation the country will succeed in bridging the gap in crude supplies which is less than 2 million tons for the last quarter of the year. He said the states have already been assured of adequate products.

UAE Assures Oil Supplies

BK101242 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 Oct 80

[Text] The United Arab Emirates has assured India that it will take immediate steps to make crude oil supply to India to meet the present difficult situation. This assurance was conveyed by UAE president to Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry Ramesh Bhandari when he called on him in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday.

Bulgaria Offers Oil Supplies

BK111032 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 Oct 80

[Text] Bulgaria is to supply over 100,000 tons of crude and fuel oil as a gesture of goodwill. Petroleum Minister Veerendra Patil, who is accompanying President Reddy on his state visit [to Bulgaria] told newsmen that Bulgaria has also offered an additional 55,000 tons of either crude or fuel oil and kerosene to help India to tide over the current difficulties. The deliveries will be made in the next 2 months.

Need for Oil Exploration

BK121628 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] The petroleum minister stressed the need to step up oil production. Writing in the Planning Commission journal YUJANA, Virendra Patil pointed out that the oil import bill in the current year is expected to be 5,000 crore rupees. Efforts are on to find new oil locations; 261 on-shore and 95 off-shore wells will be drilled in the next 5 years.

EFFORTS CONTINUE TO ESTABLISH NUCLEAR POWERPLANTS

Fifth Heavy Water Plant

BK131126 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Text] The fifth heavy water plant located near Kotah in the northern state of Rajasthan will go into production by the end of next year. The construction work at the plant has already been completed. When commissioned, the plant will produce 100 tons of heavy water per year. Set up at a cost of over 630 million rupees, the plant will save 200 million rupees in foreign exchange.

Rajasthan Plant

BK131302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Text] The 220-megawatt second unit of the Rajasthan atomic powerplant near Kotah, which became critical on Wednesday [8 October], will start commercial operations by March next.

An All-India Radio correspondent who visited the unit says that about 80 percent of its nuclear components were manufactured for the first time in the country. The 920 million-rupee second unit has a foreign exchange component of only 280 million. The first unit of the plant was commissioned with the assistance of Canada.

PRESIDENT REDDY RETURNS HOME FROM USSR, BULGARIA VISIT

BK121605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] President Neelam Sanjiva Reddy returned to New Delhi this evening after a 14-day state visit to the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.

He was received at the airport amongst others by Vice President Hidayatullah, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues and members of the diplomatic corps.

In an open statement at the airport, a spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said Reddy's talks with Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev were conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The exchange of views were considered useful by both countries. They reviewed the international situation and also reaffirmed the determination to strengthen Indo-Soviet cooperation.

Reddy's talks with the Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov and other Bulgarian leaders highlighted the friendly relations between India and Bulgaria. They reviewed the international situation and also reaffirmed their determination to strengthen Indo-Bulgarian cooperation. The president extended invitations to Brezhnev and Zhivkov to visit India. The invitations were accepted and the visit will take place at mutually convenient dates.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER RAO RETURNS FROM OVERSEAS VISITS

BK120919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao returned to New Delhi this morning from New York. He led the Indian delegation to the UN General Assembly session. During his stay in New York Narasimha Rao paid official visits to Cuba and Mexico and held extensive talks with the leaders of both the countries. [sentence as heard]

SOVIET DELEGATION CALLS ON COMMERCE MINISTER MUKHERJEE

BK140959 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] An eight-member Soviet delegation led by M.A. Kiselev called on Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee in New Delhi yesterday. They discussed the proposed Indo-Soviet long term trade and payments agreement for 1981-85.

DOMESTIC ARMS INDUSTRY GROWING, FOREIGN PURCHASES DIVERSIFIED

Progress in Weapons Research

BK101333 Delhi NATIONAL HERALD in English 7 Oct 80 pp 1, 6

[Text] New Delhi, 5 Oct (PTI)--India is on the threshold of developing its own sophisticated weaponry systems for increasing the defence and strike capabilities of its defence forces. The weapon systems, according to reliable sources, are based on the research work carried out for the last few years in the laboratories of the Defence Research and Development Organisation of the Ministry of Defence. The systems being developed would be able to meet the requirements of the army, navy and the air force for the next 10 to 20 years.

The ministry is working on an Indian-designed aircraft around an engine developed in India. The aircraft is expected to meet the Indian Air Force requirement for combat activities.

The prototype of a new tank developed by the Defence Research and Development Wing [DRDW] keeping in view the requirement of 1990's incorporating the latest technology is expected to be ready towards the end of 1981.

In the field of missile technology, Indian scientists are working on the development of the third generation missile which would reduce the radar detection to the minimum and would be of multi-purpose usage.

Defence sources said that India had made creditable progress in converting a helicopter into a "flying tank."

In the field of torpedo systems, the Indian scientists have made further improvements in the installation of homing devices, very useful work has also been done in checking the corrosion and fouling of sea-going vessels.

It is understood that in the field of research relating to radars, detection of underwater noise, sonar scanners, electronic warfare and missile system, significant success has been achieved by the research development wing of the Defence Ministry.

The research work has also resulted in further advancement in the field of night vision devices thus enhancing the night fighting capability of defence equipment. The defence establishments would soon be in a position to meet its requirements in this area.

The sources said that the invaluable work done by the defence scientists would result in the saving of foreign exchange worth crores of rupees every year. Defence research and development organisation has been reorganised to meet the growing future requirements of the Indian Armed Forces.

To tone up the administration in the defence research wing and to keep abreast with the latest technological advancements in the field of defence technology, a new approach has been adopted soon after the new government took over in January last. It was stated that the "time span" in research work had been given a new concept and the scientists and researchers have been advised to work on the requirements of the country for the 1990's and later so that work done on projects remains contemporary. The defence laboratories in the country have been regrouped to meet the futuristic service requirements of large systems by sharing of expertise and facilities.

A high-powered committee under the chairmanship of the prime minister, who is also holding the defence portfolio, exists with three service chiefs and senior ministry and DRDW officials as its members to give due importance and required guidance to the research and development work and reduce redtapism as much as possible.

'Second Thoughts' About USSR Aircraft

BK121519 Hong Kong AFP in English 1453 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] New Delhi, 12 Oct (AFP)--Indian defence authorities are reported to be having "second thoughts" about the purchase of the Soviet built transport AN-32 plane for its air force, published reports here today said.

According to the reports, the deal was almost finalised with the Soviet Union in late 1979 but no formal agreement for the purchase or subsequent manufacture has been signed so far. In the meantime, India has been offered a wide range of military transport aircraft by a number of companies from Europe and Canada. Quoting reliable sources, the reports said the aircraft now under consideration for meeting the transport requirement of the armed forces included Buffalo (Canadian), G-222 (Italian) advance version of AVRO-748 (British) and the AN-32. The Indian Air Force at present requires nearly 95 medium tactical transport aircraft as replacements and substitutes under the modernisation programme, the reports added.

IRAQI ENVOY'S UN SPEECH SCORED; RAJA'I TO RESPOND 17 OCT

LD160854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] According to a report by Iran's special representative at the United Nations, the Security Council held a session. Those who made speeches at this session were the foreign minister of the Iraqi Ba'th regime and Iranian and Cuban delegates, in that order. Sa'dun Hammadi, Saddam's foreign minister, while engaging in uttering some lies, stated at this session that his government had fully observed international principles since 1968, but that it would not tolerate interference in its internal affairs, and that this is to strengthen world peace. He had apparently forgotten his government's acts of terrorism against the Iraqi people and the neighboring countries, such as Iran and Kuwait, and the terrorist actions of his embassies throughout the world against freedom lovers, from Palestine to Iraq, Iran, Pakistan and Yemen.

The delegate of the mercenary Iraqi Ba'thist regime, in common with his Israeli colleague, proceeded to search in the pages of his own concocted history and, employing lies, claimed that Iran had been engaged in acts of aggression against its neighbors for some 500 years now. He added that Iran regards the states of Bahrain and Oman as its own territory and that it even regards Baghdad as its own domain. Saddam's foreign minister, following this lie, said with the utmost impudence that Iran's agents in Baghdad attacked members of a prayer congregation and threw acid on people's faces. He even accused Iranian teachers and diplomats in Iraq of attacking the people and exploding bombs. He added that Iranian radio stations were inciting acts of terrorism against Saddam. He then submitted a long list of distorted remarks by Iranian officials to the Security Council and said that it was for that reason that the Saddam regime was forced to attack Iran. The representative of the infidel Iraqi regime forgot to recall that under no international law could his government's fascist action be justified and that resort to force in resolving disputes between states had already been condemned in accordance with the principles he cited at the outset of his remarks. But what can one do? This has been the logic employed by liars and hyprocites throughout history.

Later on, the council president called upon the Iranian delegate to make his remarks. Mr Shams Ardekani, the UN representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said: Owing to the importance of this matter and the effect this issue could have on the future of the United Nations, the head of my government has decided personally to present Iran's positions to the Security Council. Thus I would request that the council hold a separate, special session to hear remarks by the Iranian prime minister. Later on other members of the Security Council made speeches, and the president of the Security Council declared that in view of Iran's request the session would be adjourned and that the next session would be held on Friday afternoon to hear remarks to be made by the Iranian prime minister.

BANI-SADR, RAJA'I VISIT DEZFUL AIRBASE, BATTLEFRONTS

LD151706 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] PARS reports that Dr Seyyed Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived by air yesterday at Dezful airbase to inspect and investigate the condition of the battlefronts, accompanied by Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister, and the members of the Supreme Defense Council and military commanders.

This report says that as soon as they arrived in Dezful the president, accompanied by Mr Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i, prime minister; Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani; Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i; Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Montazeri; Mr Parvaresh, deputy speaker of the Majlis; deputies of the Islamic Consultative Assembly; members of the Superme Defense Council; Brigadier General Fallahi, acting chief of Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran; and Colonel Fakuri, minister of defense and commander of the air force, took part yesterday afternoon in a meeting which was also attended by General Zahir-Nezhad, commander of the ground forces, and discussed the condition of the battlefronts in the region and the manner of the confrontation of the revolutionary forces against the mercenaries of the Iraqi Ba'thist armed forces.

This report says that the president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, all members of the Supreme Defense Council and the military commanders spent 2 hours last night inspecting the battlefronts in Pol-e Charkheh region and talking to soldiers, officers and NCO's.

The PARS correspondent reports that the president and commander in chief of the armed forces took part yesterday in a gathering of pilots, air force technicians and other members of the personnel of the Airborne Division [words indistinct] in Dezful, and that while he spoke with them he commended them.

In a speech the president referred to the steadfastness and bravery of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, reminding them that the scene of victory will be made clear when they prepare for an offensive to decisively crush the enemy. He said: We are fighting for our homeland and our beliefs and [words indistinct]. We have the means for victory, but the first condition is our decisiveness. The president added: We realize that no one in the world supports us. So we must stand on our own feet and rely upon ourselves. When you become victorious on your own the world will be amazed and will not treat us like a plaything. Our armed forces will achieve strength and respect and our nation will gain a position in the world. Then the president said that he has no doubt that we will win this war, adding: The reason for our victory is that we believe in God and this is the greatest reason for our victory.

The PARS correspondent reports that as the visit of the president and commander in chief of the armed forces continued this morning, the prime minister and other members of the Supreme Defense Council, in two separate sessions of this council, chaired by the president, studied the confrontation of the fighters of the revolution against the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

Later, various parts of Dezful airbase and the methods of preparation of fighter aircraft and helicopters were inspected by the president, prime minister and other members of the Supreme Defense Council, and in each section the relevant officials gave the necessary explanation. Here the president and his entourage commended the pilots and the personnel of the air force and the Airborne Division.

The same report says that Dr Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the armed forces, accompanied by Colonel Fakuri, visited the hospital of Dezful airbase today. During this visit, which lasted more than 30 minutes, the president inspected the various parts of the hospital and operation rooms and talked to all these wounded or injured in the war. While asking about their problems he commended them for their efforts in confronting the Ba'thist mercenary forces.

The PARS correspondent reports that the president, prime minister, other members of the Supreme Defense Council and the military commanders studied in a short meeting this afternoon the situation on various battlefronts. Later they inspected the battlefronts for 3 hours under a barrage of enemy artillery fire. They left this place at 1930.

RAJA'I VIEWS TERMS FOR ENDING WAR, RELEASING HOSTAGES

LD151141 Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 14 Oct 80 p 9

[Morten Fyhn 13 October Tehran interview with Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Raja'i: "The War Positive for Our People"]

[Text] Tehran, 13 October--"Iran will go on fighting until the enemy has been driven from the country. We will not accept any UN proposals for a cease-fire or peace as long as the Iraqi intruders are on our territory." Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i made these claims in an exclusive interview with the Norwegian broadcasting service and AFTENPOSTEN in Tehran on Monday [13 October].

Raja'i is close to Ayatollah Khomeyni, the clergy and the Islamic Republican Party, and his views are influenced by them and should therefore be representative of their views. We met the prime minister in his modest office, well guarded by young revolutionary guards, the day after he returned from a visit to the front near Dezful.

"I saw many razed towns, where defenseless people had been killed or wounded. The hospitals were full and I saw children of all ages right down to babies that had been hit by the war. But morale was high. People were only thinking about one thing, to fight on until Saddam is crushed," Raja'i said. He speaks quietly and without gestures of any kind and waits patiently the whole time for the translator to finish. The Saddam he mentions is Iraq's president, Saddam Husayn, who is only referred to in Iran by his forename, and sometimes with a flattering little addition, such as "Satan."

[Question] How long do you think the war with Iraq will last and how does Iran see the United Nations' attempts to bring about a cease-fire and peace?

[Answer] In our view Iraq is the aggressive party, and so we will not under any circumstances accept any peace proposals before this aggression ends. It should be in the interest of all countries and be the responsibility of all of us to combat aggression. As long as it continues we will fight. Iraq's aggression is a brutal and inhuman act.

As far as international organizations such as the United Nations are concerned, the Iranian people have little very confidence in them. It is the superpowers which control the United Nations with their rights of veto, and so they do what they want," the prime minister stated. Without Raja'i saying it directly, there is reason to believe that Iran expects the United Nations to condemn Iraq as the aggressor and to demand the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iran. Only when this has happened could the leaders in Tehran contemplate agreeing to a cease-fire.

Prime Minister Raja'i stressed that Iran's main objective with the war is to drive out the Iraqis, and he went on: "This war is the best way for the population in this part of the world to get to know Saddam. Iran does not need to topple his regime, for we believe the Iraqis themselves will do it. The war will make this easier for them."

Raja'i strongly denied that President Bani-Sadr's power has been reduced since Khomeyni decided on Sunday to strengthen the Supreme Defense Council by giving the clergy and the parliament greater influence on warfare. The prime minister also claimed that in the past Bani-Sadr, contrary to the general impression among observers in Tehran, has not been alone in caryring the responsibility for how the war against Iraq is to be waged.

In light of the fact that it is well known that Bani-Sadr openly opposed Raja'i's appointment as prime minister, among other things with the claim that Raja'i was not competent, we asked the prime minister about his relations with the president.

"He and I do not have any significant conflicts. It is only in small matters and in views on which line must be adopted to reach common goals that we can have differing views. Otherwise, we work well together," Raja'i replied.

The prime minister also said that the war has had a very positive influence on the Iranian people, but that it is also unfortunate that Iran has had to use arms and material against another Islamic nation and not for the goal of crushing "world Zionism." But if the war leads to Saddam's fall, it will be a good result, he said. Raja'i admits that the war has inflicted great damage on Iran.

[Question] What about foreign help to rebuild the oil installations, for example?

[Answer] We intend to rebuild the country alone and with our own hands.

[Question] Has the war affected the situation of the U.S. hostages?

[Answer] We, too, would like to put an end to this affair, but it is the United States that has the key to solving the problem. But the United States does not care about the hostages. This was made clear when the United States attacked Iran in April, despite the fact that it knew that the hostages would be the first to be killed.

Prime Minister Raja'i stated categorically that it is the United States that must make an initiative in the hostage affair, even though the recently appointed committee in the Tehran parliament is to take up the matter. He made it perfectly clear that the United States by no means needs to wait for the results of the committee's work.

"It is in the hands of the United States to acknowledge the rights of the Iranian people and to show respect for Imam Khomeyni. The United States knows what we want."

BEHESHTI DISCUSSES JUDICIAL ISSUES WITH KHOMEYNI

LD151108 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] According to PARS, the chief justice of the Supreme Court, Ayatollah Beheshti, was received in audience by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning. During this audience he held talks on judicial affairs with the imam of the nation.

EXECUTIVE AFFAIRS MINISTER CHAIRS COUNCIL SESSION 15 OCT

LD152128 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a session today at 1630 chaired by Dr Nabavi, minister of state in charge of executive affairs. At today's session, which lasted until 2200, several proposals were put forward by the Ministries of Interior, Roads and Transport, Economic Affairs and Finance, Foreign Affairs, (?Islamic unity), Industries and Mines, Post, Telegraph and Telephone, and several Tehran municipal districts. The proposals were discussed and ratified.

HEAD OF IRANIAN SECRET POLICE REPORTEDLY VISITS WASHINGTON

GF121233 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 11 Oct 80 p 1

[Dispatch from AL-QABAS correspondent in Washington Jule (Kajian)]

[Excerpt] The head of the Iranian secret police (SAVAMA), Gen Hoseyn Fardust, recently visited ashington and held talks with CIA officials within the framework of a plan to release the U.S. hostages before 4 November and assist Iran in its war against Iraq.

Informed U.S. sources say that the U.S. administration explored Fardust's opinion on the possibility of close cooperation between the United States and Iran in the future in order to help Iran restore its strength after the Iranian-Iraqi war ends. The sources indicated that the CIA has allocated $160 million for "reconciliation" with Iran. The money will be spent on some of Imam Khomeyni's close aides.

The sources told AL-QABAS that Fardust's visit to Washington took place with the knowledge of Imam Khomeyni and through the mediation of an Arab state that supports Iran. It comes within the framework of an Iranian campaign to purchase spare parts and arms and as part of contacts with former military leaders.

AFP: CUBA'S MALMIERCA DUE IN TEHRAN 16 OCT ON PEACE MISSION

NC160855 Paris AFP in English 0845 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] Tehran, Oct 16 (AFP)--Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca is expected here today, a Cuban diplomatic source said.

The Cuban Embassy officially refused to confirm the report that Mr Malmierca was coming in the name of the non-aligned movement chaired by Cuba on a further mission to resolve the conflict between Iran and Iraq.

The embassy also would not say if Mr Malmierca would be going to the Iraqi capital Baghdad from Tehran.

The Cuban minister visited both capitals 6 weeks ago, and last night his country's representative at the United Nations, Raul Roa, told the Security Council Cuba would spare no effort to find a "peaceful and honourable solution" to the conflict "in conditions acceptable to both sides."

PARIS ARABIC MAGAZINE INTERVIEWS BANI-SADR AIDE ON GULF WAR

LD151611 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 13-19 Oct 80 pp 9,10

[Interview granted by Mohammad Hasan Pir-Hoseyni, adviser to President Bani-Sadr on internal affairs, to Fadiyah Ash-Sharqawi in Paris--date not given]

[Text] [Question] Are you in Paris on an official mission and do you believe that France can play a mediator's role in the Iraqi-Iranian war in view of its good relations with Iraq?

[Answer] I am not here on an official mission. I am here as part of my visits to other European countries. I believe that before talking about French mediation in the current war we must talk about stopping the war. Iraq, through Saddam Husayn's government, has committed an aggression against Iran. We are only defending ourselves. Saddam's army must pull back to its previous borders prior to any mediation. We never wanted this war and we do not wish it to continue. I believe that France can play a role in this regard.

[Question] What are the limits of the Iraqi-Iranian war? Do you believe that Iran can continue the war despite its numerous internal problems?

[Answer] I cannot determine the limits of the war in advance, but I can affirm that the Iranian front will continue this war until its retrieves all its territories and until Saddam's army pulls back to behind the borders agreed upon in the 1975 Algiers agreement. The continuation of the war depends on Iraq and on how long it continues with its aggression. We will continue to defend ourselves to the last man in Iran capable of fighting. This is a matter of life and death for Iranians, for we are not only defending our territories but also all humanity as well as this revolution which we believe is an example of revolutions that can liberate peoples.

[Question] Do you believe that the borders established in the Algiers agreement are fair for Iraq?

[Answer] Talk about the justice or injustice of the agreement should have taken the form of discussions at the negotiating table. Therefore, I cannot comment on this subject at this time in particular. The agreement exists whether it is just or not. In order to discuss its justice the war and fighting must stop and then the matter can be discussed.

[Question] Supposing Iraq had not launched this war but had invited you to discuss the agreement. Would it have been possible to respond to the invitation?

[Answer] We are always ready for discussion and we would have appreciated this had it taken place. But we blame Saddam's government for not turning the issue into a real dialogue.

[Question] But don't you think that Iraq has legitimate demands at least as far as the borders are concerned?

[Answer] I repeat that if Iraq has certain claims it should resort to dialogue and to peaceful methods in order to obtain them. This, however, does not mean that all their claims are legitimate and that they will get everything they demand. No. I would like to draw a line between two matters: the three islands and the borders.

With regard to the three islands I believe that they never belonged to anybody other than Iran. If we go back in history we find that these islands belonged to Iran, and then were under the control of British forces for some time. When Britain left the area their inhabitants occupied them, but this does not mean that they belong to them. Nor do I see any justification for Iraq and Saddam claiming these islands, particularly since he will not have geographical control of them. Iraq affirms that it wants these islands in order to return them to the Arab fold. We ask Saddam: Who are you to be the godfather of the Arab countries?

Also, supposing that these islands were Arab, we would ask the following question: In whose hands will the islands be? In Ash-Shariqah's hands or in the hands of another Arab country, or will they pass into the hands of the United States? Allow me to explain the situation in the area. The United States has in Muscat and Oman military bases and a U.S. regular army. This means that if these islands are returned to the Arab countries they will fall into U.S. hands. Hence, everything is clear. We cannot appease the United States any further in the Arab Gulf [as published] region. One of our revolution's objectives is to expel the U.S. power from the area. Therefore, the claim for these islands is illegitimate and I believe that Saddam Husayn knows this very well. For this reason he is no longer claiming them at all.

With regard to the borders--if Iraq has any demands it must first stop the war and, second, leave all Iranian territories. It must also declare a cease-fire and promise that it will never interfere in Iran's domestic affairs. But I would again say that this does not mean that they will obtain all they demand. I believe that legitimate discussions will lead to legitimate results.

[Question] Why in your oppinion did Iraq launch this war, and do you believe that there are objectives behind it?

[Answer] Saddam wanted to launch this war a long time ago. Several times he attacked Iran through his interference in our internal affairs. Following the revolution's success in February 1977 he gave asylum and aid to SAVAK men and the shah's men who escaped from Iran. In fact, Iraq began its war with Iran 8 months ago in Qasr-e Shirin, when they began attacking towns and killing innocent people. I believe that Saddam chose this time in particular because he thought that Iran was in a weak position, but his calculations were wrong. The best proof of this, as you can see, is that Iran deferred its internal problems when the Iraqi attack began and devoted all its efforts to defending its independence and revolution.

[Question] The Iranians have several times asserted that the fighting will not stop before the Iraqis pull back to the previous borders. Do you believe that if the war continues Iran will be able to reach a military situation in which it can negotiate?

[Answer] First, from a military viewpoint we can say that the Iraqi Army is not strong enough to confront the Iranian forces. We have a strong fighting army. There is a difference between a fighting army and an army of mercenaries. I believe that Saddam Husayn's army is a mercenary army which he pays to fight. They have no sense of nationalism or ideological motivation to fight. It is impossible to eliminate a regular army, unless Iraq can destroy all the army and all its weapons. But he cannot destroy an army consisting of 20 million people because the Iranian Army is not fighting alone. Rather, it is the people who are fighting. Also the Iraqi Army as far as its organization and training are concerned is not an effective army whereas the Iranian Army, which has great field experience, is well trained in land, sea, and air warfare. I believe that in its present position the Iranian Army is capable of continuing the war. With a simple calculation we can prove that the Iranian Army is capable of continuing to fight endlessly if Iraq is prepared for this. But I do not believe that Iraq is capable of an endless war, and therefore it will be the first loser.

[Question] What in your opinion is the role the two superpowers are playing in this war?

[Answer] I believe that the two giant states are playing a major role in this war, particularly the United States. This country, despite its declaration of neutrality, has contributed to this war by sending radar planes to Saudi Arabia, through King Husayn's aid to Saddam Husayn, and by convincing friendly countries such as France, Britain and Australia of the need to intervene in the problem. It has also contributed by threatening to intervene in Iran if the Strait of Hormuz is blocked. As for the Soviet Union, this country has given supplies and spare parts to Iraq, which means direct intervention in the war. What we want is for the world's peoples, particularly the peoples under the protection of major powers, to call on their governments to stop their attacks on us.

[Question] Iran has confirmed that it has obtained military spare parts from Turkey. How would you reconcile your accusation against the United States of directly intervening in the war and your obtaining aid from Turkey, which is known for its ties with the United States on all levels?

[Answer] I cannot answer this question. I have not received any information or confirmation on what you call Turkish military aid to Iran. Consequently, I am not in a position to comment on contradictions in our policy.

[Question] Observers believe that sooner or later you will fall into the lap of the Soviet Union, particularly since there is no country in this world that cannot belong to one of the two superpowers. What is your opinion?

[Answer] I believe that this is a difficult question although I would have liked to answer it. As you know, Iran has paid a high price for this independence which will lead to other independences in the area. Therefore, we are not prepared to lose this independence. But obtaining arms from another country does not mean that you lost your independence. This is up to the country itself. We are prepared to accept aid on the condition that the price should not be our independence.

[Question] But you haven't answered the question.

[Answer] It is not necessary to establish new relations with the Soviet Union and I do not believe at all in this matter.

[Question] Do you believe that the Iraqi-Iranian war will spread to new areas?

[Answer] Yes, because Saddam Husayn has been frustrated in this war and he will try to convince other countries, particularly Arab countries which we consider friendly and allies, to join the war for one single objective--to prove that he is the leader of the Arab world. But this depends on the other countries and on the possibility of them becoming involved in the war or becoming Iraqi military bases. Only in this case will we fight against such countries in defense of our territories.

[Question] Do you believe that certain Arab countries will turn into an Iraqi military base?

[Answer] So far only one country has become so. I have no information about other Arab countries. I hope that they will not get involved and fall into the trap; it is not in the interest of their countries, or of Iran, or of the world.

[Question] In your reply you hinted that one Arab country has done this so far. Is it Saudi Arabia, and what do you think of its role in this war?

[Answer] The Saudi Arabian Kingdom has played an important role in this war. There are reports of the shipment of arms from it to Iraq. But these things have not yet been confirmed, and therefore I cannot confirm that Saudi Arabia has interfered directly in the war. I believe that the United States is using Saudi Arabia as a cover to give military aid to Iraq.

[Question] This means that you are accusing the United States of being behind the war.

[Answer] Of course. I will even go further and say that the United States was the one that called for this war. The sending of four radar planes to Saudi Arabia is of great significance and proves that the war will enter a new stage--that is, it will extend to new fronts. I will go even further than that to say that the United States, through the presence of these planes, can start a war in order to bring about a major change in the map of the area. The objective of these aircraft's presence is not only to protect the oil wells in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom; it also means that this state has agreed to be the command and observation center for a rapid war in the area.

[Question] Do you believe that the other Arab countries will enter this war?

[Answer] I believe that the other Gulf countries and even the Arabian desert [as published] do not have sufficient power to defend themselves if the United States and Saudi Arabia decide to declare war on them. I will give you an example. A few years ago Saddam Husayn would not have needed more than 6 hours to reach the heart of Kuwait. In Oman there are U.S. bases at which there are Egyptian troops. They only need a few hours to enter all the Gulf countries. An aggression of this sort is an easy matter for the United States, Saudi Arabia and Iraq. I do not think that shifting the war to the entire area would take them more than one day. They have adequate military equipment for this, although the area would turn into a real inferno.

The [AWACS] planes in Saudi Arabia now are capable of observation and control over a range of 250 miles. This means that Saudi Arabia which covers Iraq is prepared and well-equipped in order to intervene in these small countries and even in Iran at any moment.

[Question] This means that the Iraqi-Iranian war will turn into an Iranian-Arab war.

[Answer] We cannot call it an Arab-Iranian war; it is a mixed war in order to change the map of the area.

[Question] How do you imagine the map of the area will change?

[Answer] Let us imagine the scenario of this war on the map of this area. The fighting will extend to other areas, including the Persian Gulf. The major powers suddenly decide to bring peace to the area. How? Through military intervention. This intervention calls for armies to be present around the Persian Gulf, and thus the division of the Gulf among the major powers will begin. This will be followed by negotiations based on political and military pressures, the annexation of lands, and the installation of new governments loyal to the major powers which can be depended upon to keep the oil in loyal and friendly hands. This would be the purpose of the war if it extends to other areas. But the matter is not confined to the attack on Iran alone. Otherwise, what would be the meaning of launching the war from the southern Persian Gulf when they can launch this attack from the waters? [as published]

What is happening now is a major war in order to change the map of the area and create new states, as has happened before. This means that the oil will become monopolized by the imperialists.

[Question] Do you believe that the Soviet Union will stand idle in the face of this situation?

[Answer] I believe that there must be an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union. I believe that it is a long-term agreement. I do not understand how the Soviet Union can stand idle in the face of the military occupation of this strategic area following the arrival of the U.S. aircraft and when the United States has a combatready army in Muscat and Oman. Let us place ourselves in the Soviet Union's shoes: will it remain silent and feel comfortable in the face of all these changes, when in the past it used to shout loudly against any simple move by the United States? The military balance in the area has been disturbed and yet the Soviet Union has not made a move. Which means that there is a previous agreement between the two states in order to control the area and secure their own interests.

[Question] Iran has affirmed that it is not in need of supplies in the Iraqi-Iranian war, but if this war is prolonged, how will you obtain military supplies as long as you are politically isolated?

[Answer] I do not like this word "isolation," but I understand your feeling. I believe it is difficult for many countries to understand the principles of the Iranian Islamic Revolution, because most of the political attitudes we adopt stem from the revolution's attitudes. Most of the countries and governments and even politicians define their political attitudes on the basis of power and political, ideological and strategic balances. Whereas our revolution depends on a different philosophy, the philosophy of revolution, which means it takes longer for the other countries to understand and absorb it, or for our policy to become compatible with theirs. I agree that we have erred by not explaining this philosophy, probably because we have not had enough time to do so, or because we have not made sufficient effort in this field. For this reason so far we have been unable to convince these countries and governments of the value of our foreign policy. Therefore, in seeking support we do not rely on governments but on people. We know that the world peoples have realized that this war is an aggression by Saddam Husayn, but unfortunately these people do not have the media to express themselves.

With regard to political isolation, we admit that we are in a weak political position as regards the attitude of certain governments, but insofar as the peoples of these states are concerned, we are strong.

[Question] But you cannot continue with the war without any political support and, consequently, military support.

[Answer] This is the truth. But if the war is prolonged then it will not be between Iran and the Arab countries, but between these countries and the major powers. We are in need of assistance from friendly countries. I believe that if we find ourselves in a situation such as this, there will be many countries that will not leave us without assistance.

[Question] What do you expect Bakhtiar's role to be at this stage, particularly following reports that he went to Iraq in order to form a government-in-exile?

[Answer] I think that a government-in-exile is merely a dream. One would have to be simple to accept the idea of a government-in-exile by Bakhtiar or anybody else. Evidence of this--and one can draw conclusions from it--is that in Khorramshahr, when Saddam Husayn's soldiers attacked the area, the Iranian Army was unable to intervene quickly to repel the attack. But the citizens were there and used Molotov cocktails to repel the attack. They were able to destroy 18 Iraqi tanks. Which means that it is the people who are ready to repel any attack on our country's independence. Forming a government-in-exile is meaningless to us or anybody else. We believe that such a government would be a toy for Bakhtiar, who loves toys. He is happy with this toy.

[Question] Some people accuse you of continuing to hold the U.S. hostages as a means of pressuring the United States to prevent it from intervening.

[Answer] I would like to separate the hostages question from the question of the war. We are not persecutors. We do not wish to exploit the situation in this manner or use these individuals to bring pressure to bear on the United States to reach agreement. The council that is dealing with these hostages is still seeking to solve the problem. It is acting independently of the influences of the war. Whatever these hostages are, they are part of the world community. If the United States intervenes in the war, such intervention will be an aggression against all the world communities, particularly the Iranian community. U.S. interference or interference by any other state will change the world situation which, in turn, would affect the hostages.

[Question] But their trial will take a long time.

[Answer] I admit that this is true. I believe the politicians and journalists who visited the hostages several times declared their satisfaction with the conditions enjoyed by these hostages. They bathe, they play, they go out for fresh air, they read books and magazines and they receive letters from their people. The solution of this problem depends on a decision by the council. It is difficult to make such a decision. The hostages problem is not the problem of 52 people but of the U.S. Government and of the actions it perpetrated against Iran.

[Question] What is your opinion of the world's attitude toward the Iraqi-Iranian war?

[Answer] Immediately after launching the war, Iraq mounted a worldwide propaganda campaign. Iraq gave travel visas to many foreign correspondents and was happy to give them news. But many news reports were wrong. I believe that Iraq cannot go on misleading world opinion, because the truth must come to light. I believe that, so far, world opinion stands with Iran, because it knows that we are defending our rights and our life. It also realizes that we have been able to stand fast and resist in the face of a country receiving aid and supplies from major powers and despite the blockade and the economic and military boycott imposed against us. I believe that peace-loving peoples will view this steadfastness with admiration.

QOM SEMINARY ULEMA APPEAL TO ISLAMIC ULEMA

JN160725 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0627 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] Brothers: The League of Ulema in Qom Seminary is an organization composed of militant ulema, preachers and figures in holy Qom. This organization has been instrumental in engineering a primary portion of the Islamic Revolution and recorded noble stands in jihad against U.S. tyranny, which was stamped out and sent to hell by the Islamic Revolution.

This league, which consists of great men and advocates of right, has issued an appeal to the Muslim ulema in all the Islamic countries.

The appeal says: O great Muslim ulema; O Friday preachers; you who have devoted yourselves for the sake of right: religious responsibility urges you to help Islam. Mobilize the masses of the Islamic nation against the infidel Ba'th. Preach in mosques and acquaint the people with the real Ba'th.

The League of Ulema in Qom Seminary greeted the Jordanian mosques' imams and Friday sermon preachers who preached against the infidel Ba'th. The league urged all ulema to follow the example of the militant Jordanian ulema because the Ba'th is only a British-born plot and a U.S. [words indistinct] to concoct various [?plots).

O revolutionary ulema and preachers in the Islamic world; O you who have been dedicated to faith; O free men: right and falsehood cannot meet. You must not be silent on wrong; you must not be silent when right is oppressed. The Ba'th Party is heathenism. It has destroyed Iraq and the Iraqi people. Rush to support this holy Islamic country and listen to the shouts of the oppressed people. He who does not heed the cries of a Muslim is not a Muslim.

TEHRAN RADIO REPORTS IRAQI ACTION AGAINST SADDAM HUSAYN REGIME

GF152030 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Iraqi cities are still tense as a result of the war, which is now in its third week.

Our correspondent reports that two Iraqi officers on the border in Sar-e Pol-e Zahab have sought asylum and joined the Islamic army. In an interview the two officers said that the majority of Iraqi soldiers and NCO's do not want a war with Iran. They stressed that the Iraqi Ba'thists station people behind the frontlines to open fire at Iraqi military groups if necessary.

In an interview a member of the Iraqi Ad-Da'wah Party said that, according to a report by the revolutionary Iraqi forces, an Iraqi plane had tried to bomb the presidential palace in Baghdad. However, the plane was unable to do so. It dropped antigovernment leaflets and took refuge in an Arab country.

COMMENTARY SAYS SADDAM HUSAYN TO BE REPLACED

GF151244 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0437 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] By following the trends in the world news media, one can realize the dimensions of the conspiracy plotted at the highest levels of infidelity and conspiracy by colonialist circles. The task of implementing this conspiracy was assigned to the agent regimes in the region, each of whom knew well which part it had to play. Thus, while the task of launching the war was assigned to Saddam and his 'Aflaqi gang, the shah of Jordan was assigned the task of [word indistinct] so as to give the war [words indistinct] beside the rest of the roles which were assigned to the others.

We need not anticipate matters which will be exposed spontaneously sooner or later. However, by following the news media we can highlight the implications of the visits which certain Western politicians pay to some of the region's states.

Dear listener, do you find yourself confused by reports on the devastating war between Iran and Iraq? You find the infidel news media, which are skilled in the service of colonialism and the colonizers, continuously reporting heroic achievements by Saddam's mercenaries, successive victories, their alleged occupation of Khorramshahr, alleged occupation of Ahvaz, Dezful and other cities. The infidel news media were not content with doing only this; many of them went further to predict Saddam's conquests, as Radio Monte Carlo did. All this consolidated support by agents for Saddam, and the efforts of their news media to render support to him, shows the listener the extent of malice which the colonizers have against Islam and its victorious revolution--a revolution that has upset the balance of power in the world and revived Islam as an international power to be feared and respected.

If we examine some of the dimensions of this ugly campaign in which Saddam was appointed as the spearhead, we find the following:

1. The United States has failed to force the Islamic state to its knees. All its plans were doomed to failure.

2. Escalation of the Islamic revolution in Iraq has begun to threaten the fate of Saddam and his gang, thus allowing for the spread of the Islamic revolution on the one hand and establishment of an Islamic force consisting of the Islamic army of Iraq and the Islamic army of Iran. Those two countries possess huge economic resources, in itself a factor that threatens Israel and the rest of the colonizers' interests in the region.

3. All the infidel efforts to dissociate the Islamic masses from their great victorious revolution have failed. Therefore, a new tactic had to be implemented.

These three points made imperialist circles employ their agent Saddam to play his last card. If he wins, this is what the masters want; if he loses, Israel, which is the base of the infidel colonizers in the region, will have eliminated the Islamic threat for a long time to come. Thus, this war will no doubt weaken both of the Islamic armies in Iraq and Iran, and the superpowers will be able to widen the gap and create differences between the Islamic masses in the Arab world and the Islamic revolution in Iran.

But have the imperialist circles taken into account Saddam's failure, and have they prepared themselves for such a consequence? We believe that the imperialist circles have, since they inspired Saddam to play this role and assigned him the duty of launching the war against the Islamic Republic, thus dooming him to extinction. The colonial circles are counting on a replacement for Saddam who will enable them to control Iraq in the future. Then they will be able to plot new conspiracies that may protect them from the threats of the expansion of the great Islamic revolution and the spread of the ideology of struggle among Muslims.

As we see it, the imperialists plan to exhaust Saddam and throw him aside when he can't run the country any longer. He does not enjoy as much as an atom of the people's confidence, because of the terrifying massacres which he has committed against the pioneers of the Islamic revolution in Iraq and as the result of the growing revolutionary feeling among the Muslim Iraqi people. All these factors necessitated the need to think of another agent who would use Islam as a cover to implement the rest of the infidels' evil and ugly colonial plans.

Just as previous imperialist plans were crushed on the steadfast rock of the Iranian Muslim people and army, the new plans will, with God's help, founder on the steadfast rock of our Muslim people and army in Islamic Iraq.

The mercenary infidel news media will find themselves forced to tell the truth as they did before when the Islamic Revolution in Iran escalated and succeeded against the buried shah. In the future Radio Monte Carlo, the BBC and other hireling trumpets will not benefit from baseless pretexts, and they will not be bought by oil.

MUSLIM STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS IN U.S. ANNOUNCE SUPPORT

GF151835 Zahedan International Service in Urdu 1530 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Our correspondent from Washington reports that Muslim students organizations in the University of Pennsylvania and Philadelphia's Temple University have sent a message to the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. The message says: We announce complete solidarity with Iranian Muslims and condemn the Ba'thist Iraqi aggression against Iran because it is aggression against Iranian and Iraqi Muslims. We are sure that Almighty God will make the Islamic army successful and that the infidels and their agents in the region will face a shameful defeat.

ETTELA'AT TOTALS IRAQI LOSSES IN MILITARY HARDWARE

GF151839 [Editorial Report] Tehran International Service in Arabic at 1805 GMT on 15 October, in its evening press review, reports the following headline carried in today's issue of the evening paper ETTELA'AT on its front page: "Iranian Forces Besiege Iraqi Forces Pushed by the Tribal Tikriti Regime Inside Iranian Territory in the Environs of Abadan". and stated: "Total losses sustained by the Tikriti regime since it launched its aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran until this morning are: 150 fighter planes; 4 helicopters; 844 tanks, halftracks and armored personnel carriers; 7 military bases, industrial and [word indistinct] installations--as well as heavy losses in the bases that have been destroyed--which include the destruction of scores of fighter planes, hundreds of tanks and other military hardware."

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF ISSUES COMMUNIQUES 184-187

184: Battle Successes in Iraq

LD151214 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Communique 184 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Committed and Muslim compatriots: The Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with the cooperation of other brothers who have joined the armed forces, have ferociously confronted Iraqi aggressors and are bravely defending our Islamic homeland. On 14 October four Iraqi tanks and one truck were destroyed in the region of Bostan, and fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran attacked the Umm Qasr port in Iraq, destroying one missile patrol boat and severely damaging another.

As a result of bravery of the Airborne Division of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the border posts of Ash-Shahid and Anjirah in Iraq were destroyed and many of the personnel of Anjirah post were killed. military column of the enemy, which was stranded at this region, was also destroyed. During this attack one observation tower of the third base of (Minat) was completely destroyed; and one truck and two antiaircraft defense units of the enemy, stationed at (Khur) base were smashed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

185: Successes of Airborne Troops

LD151740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Communique 185 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Put your trust in God because God likes those who trust him. History is a scene for struggle, fighting and taking positions. On the one side there is the position taken by those who are with God and on the other is the position taken by those who are wrong, who move against God and who are in basic and fundamental contradiction with life and [word indistinct].

The result of deploying troops of the army of the wrong against the right always is the defeat of the army of the wrong and the victory of the army of the right. The brave and honorable fighters of the Airborne Division of the Ground Forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, trusting the limitless blessings of God, today succeeded in destroying 2 enemy posts, 11 tanks, trucks and vehicles and 1 [word indistinct] enemy command communication in their operations near the (?Ilam) border. They destroyed 5 enemy warfare bunkers and killed more than 1,000 Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran congratulates the heroes of the Airborne Division of the Ground Forces of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on this victory and beseeches Almighty God for the success of those brave soldiers fighting against infidelity. [communique is not signed]

186: Counterattack Near Hamidiyeh

LD160618 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0505 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Communique 186 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. So, if they kill you, kill them, that is what the infidels deserve.

Dear Muslim compatriots of Iran. The revolutionary Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its fight against blasphemy have not had a moment's rest and do not hesitate to attack deep into the heart of the enemy. These genuine devotees of Islam and Iran are determined to fight the enemy to the last drop of their blood and to the last person; and not to rest until they have destroyed the Iraqis.

Our brave guard brothers last night in a courageous night attack deep into enemy territory in the region of Hamidiyeh destroyed 20 tanks, several heavy weapons, and several trucks loaded with ammunition belonging to the Iraqi mercenaries and inflicted heavy loss of life.

In these operations four brave guard brothers were martyred.

Also this morning one Iraqi MiG was shot down near Khark Island by one of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

187: Damage to Tabriz Refinery

LD160800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Communique 187 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Iranian Muslim and combatant compatriots: The brave combatants of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran in a courageous battle yesterday captured 15 men of the enemy forces, destroyed one of their mortar launchers and captured one mortar launcher and one radio. Unfortunately, the air attack yesterday by the infidel, aggressive enemy on the Tabriz refinery caused casualties and damages.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Two Soldiers Killed

LD151810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1644 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Unnumbered communique of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The fighting and honorable nation of Iran: Two of the brave sons of the Airborne Division have been martyred in fighting the aggressive enemy: Pilot Captain Hamid Reza Soheylian, and Sotvanyar [civilian rank equivalent to lieutenant] S'adollah Davudzadeh from the progeny of Abraham and a pupil of the school of Imam Hoseyn, may God bless him, and of the followers of Imam Khomeyni.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran congratulates and condoles the imam of the nation and the relatives of the martyrs.

Funeral ceremonies for Pilot Captain Hamid Reza Soheylian will be held at the headquarters of the Airborne Division situated at the [word indistinct] barracks tomorrow morning at 0900.

The participation of dear compatriots in these ceremonies will be soothing to the relatives of these martyrs.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

RETREAT OF IRAQI FORCES FROM ABADAN REPORTED

LD151806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] According to a PARS report from Abadan, Iraqi infidel aggressors who were trying to advance towards Abadan were forced to retreat as a result of an attack by the city's heroes armed with [word indistinct]. Despite their military equipment, the aggressors, whose movements were incorrect, were unable to advance even one step against the defending forces of the Islamic Revolution. At 1800 today they were forced to retreat.

The Iraqi aggressors, seeking revenge for this military defeat, shelled the residential areas of Abadan with their long-range artillery and inflicted some damage. The people of Abadan have transformed the city into an armed stronghold and have organized themselves in order to fight the Iraqi mercenaries. The digging of trenches in streets and boulevards which started some days ago has finished now and these struggling Muslims, in accordance with their religious duty, are ready to face the aggressive infidels who have violated the territory of the holy homeland of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The PARS report says in conclusion that a number of children, women and civiiian residents of the city were martyred during the Iraqi artillery attack on Abadan, and a number were injured. Mosques, mobilization of the oppressed headquarters and guards corps units, together with the military brothers, have begun to organize the resistance in this city. Youths form the operational core of the resistance.

The Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran has destroyed ground posttions of Iraqi aggressors who were trying to penetrate Abadan and in their heroic operations have inflected heavy damage on the enemy positions. According to PARS, one Iraqi MiG was downed in an air battle with an Iranian fighter over the Mahshahr road and its pilot was killed. The morale of the brave, fighting, Muslim and noble people of Abadan is very high and men and women, old and young, are ready to defend thier city and hometown. According to PARS, there has been fighting with the Iraqi infidels near the entrance to Khorramshahr. As expected, the defenders of the revolution in this town have prevented the Iraqi mercenaries from penetrating the town.

Night Attack Foiled

LD160602 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] PARS has been informed by Abadan officials that the blasphemous aggressors of Iraq, who have been trying with their whole power to enter Abadan in the past few days, are still unsuccessful. Last night, becaust of the bravery of the commicted and heroic people of Abadan and the armed forces of the revolution, the Iraqis were driven a few kilometres further back. They are now 10 kms from the Bahmanshir bridge.

The blasphemous mercenaries, who are equipped with all sorts of arms, do not know that they have come to fight a people who are armed with faith and are believers in the school and defenders of its clean image against the aggressions of the infidels.

Throughout the night the Abadan defenders guarded the streets of the city with utmost consciousness and had the movement of even the smallest moving object under their control. The city's gates are blocked by (?various) obstacles provided through the generous cooperation of the Abadani mothers, and so the Ba'thist mercenaries are still denied entrance.

The miserable enemy, who thought he could move closer to Abadan under cover of night, had no alternative but to accept reality and retreat, due to the bravery of the people and the limitless cooperation between the people and the armed forces.

Last night, after the announcement of a communique from the Abadan governor's office, the people of the city, including the aged and the young, moved into street trenches and prepared for hand-to-hand fighting with the Iraqi mercenaries.

The [word indistinct] of the resistance forces is in good shape and today it will be expanded further. Theleaders of the city are supplying their soldier-children very well and the resistance is so coherent that it will force the Iraqi mercenaries to end any thought of penetrating the city. They must know that in case they enter Abadan, this hot city of Khuzestan will become a hell for the Iraqi infidels.

Situation in Abadan, Khorramshahr

LD151228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] According to a PARS report from Abadan, land and air battles continue between defenders of the Islamic Revolution and the mercenary and blasphemous Iraqi aggressors in the region of the routes from Ahvaz to Abadan and Abadan to Mahshahr. According to the same report, at around 0900 today an Iranian fighter plane chased four encroaching Iraqi MiG's near Abadan and made it possible for the people to watch an Iraqi MiG crash.

According to this report, which was received at 1240, Iraqi mercenaries positioned near the city of Abadan with heavy artillery have come under artillery fire from the defenders of the revolution.

From morning to midday today, several Iraqi MiG's violated the airspace of the city three times in order to provide air support for their violating ground forces which are trying to establish themselves around Abadan; but each time they were repulsed by the antiaircraft fire of the defenders of the hero-rearing city of Abadan and eventually they were forced to flee.

According to the PARS report from Abadan, the battle also continues between the Muslim fighters of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraqi blasphemous mercenaries on the outskirts of the city of Khorramshahr; the aggressors are trying to enter the city and occupy sensitive positions. But it is clear even to Iraqi mercenaries that it is impossible for a blasphemous aggressor to enter the sacred cities of Abadan or Khorramshahr, unless he is prepared for hand-to-hand fighting with the defenders of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to PARS, the valiant fighters of Abadan and Khorramshahr are enjoying very high morale.

FARS CITIZENS ADMONISHED TO OBSERVE BLACKOUT REGULATIONS

GF151551 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1528 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to a stern warning to all careless fellow citizens regarding the blackout:

All compatriots, especially those residing in the areas of Abiverdi, airport, Fazlabad, Ardekan Road, Qasroddasht Avenue, Army Avenue, all drivers in and around these cities, and finally all those compatriots in Fars Province who can hear our message, if they do not fully comply with all blackout regulations withing the next few minutes, the regional power department will take direct action. In addition to cutting off the power of the mentioned areas, it will also arrest all violaters as counterrevolutionaries. They will be treated in accordance with the provisions of the law.

KERMANSHAH RADIO ISSUES RED ALERT WARNING 15 OCT

GF151549 Kermanshah Domestic Service in Persian 1531 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] [sound of siren] Dear listeners, the siren you have just heard is the red alert signal. Please stay in safe places until our next announcement.

SHIRAZ RADIO REPORTS RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

GF151435 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] The public relations department of Shiraz airbase requests all those who applied to serve as volunteer soldiers to report to the base on 18-19 October. All volunteers must bring their birth certificates, draft termination certificates, proof of lack of any criminal record and all other identify cards.

NEW CLANDESTINE 'VOICE OF IRANIAN KORDESTAN' RADIO HEARD

WA160920 [Editorial Report] A clandestine station identifying itself as the radio of the Voice of Iranian Kordestan (Radio Sadaye Kordestane Iran) was intercepted in progress at 1415 GMT 13 October broadcasting in Persian. The broadcast ended at 1505 GMT with the Kurdish national anthem. The radio carried news and comments in the name of the Democratic Party of Kordestan in Iran which seemed critical of the Iranian regime.

On 15 October the station signed on at 1330 GMT on a different frequency. It opened with the Kurdish national anthem, which is similar to that played by the Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan. The station then twice identified itself in Kurdish as the Voice of Iranian Kordestan (Ayra Dangi Kurdistani Irana) and gave the following announcement in Surani Kurdish:

"We send you our revolutionary greetings. The Voice of Iranian Kordestan begins its daily programs at 1700 Tehran time [1330 GMT] and lasts for 1 and 1/2 hours. The first 45 minutes are in Kurdish and the second 45 minutes in Persian on the 41 meter band shortwave.

"Dear citizens, the radio of the Voice of Iranian Kordestan fights for the peoples of Iran. It fights against world imperialism, particularly U.S. imperialism. If fights to realize freedom and democracy in all parts of Iran. The Voice of Iranian Kordestan fights to achieve democracy for Iran and autonomy for the oppressed peoples of Iran. The Voice of Iranian Kordestan propagates the economic and social demands of the toiling workers and peasants. This radio refutes the lies propagated by the government radio and television and represents the free people of the world [words indistinct]. Remember the shortwave and the frequency of the Voice of Iranian Kordestan and tell it to your friends and comrades.

"Dear listeners, the programs of the Voice of Iranian Kordestan for today, Wednesday, 15 October 1980 will last for 45 minutes and are as follows: recitation from the Holy Koran; news, followed by our commentary today, entitled: 'Those who work in the interest of the reactionaries and the inhuman elements have only themselves to blame.' Our last program will be: answers to listeners' questions."

The Persian language portion began on schedule at 1415 and at about 1445 the radio faded out completely.

TEHRAN BROADCASTS SONG PROMISING LIBERATION OF AMMAN

WA161006 [Editorial Report] Tehran International Service in Arabic at 0925 GMT on 11 October broadcast a song calling for and promising the liberation of the Jordanian capital, Amman. This song is one of many that were broadcast by clandestine PLO radios at the time of the September 1970 fighting between the Palestinians and the Jordanian Army.